

When I attempted to call the Sinclair stations near me, WCGV, UPN 24 and WVTM, WB 18 - Milwaukee, WI, I noticed the number to call was the same one: (414) 442-7050.

I wanted to leave a message with my dissenting voice in regards to the airing of the anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election.

When I called that number, I got an automated message stating to "press 1" if I'm calling about the Kerry documentary. After pressing 1, I got another automated message telling me to call Mark Highman at 410-568-1780. When I called that number, there was yet another automated message telling me that the documentary isn't finished, certain organizations are advertising it incorrectly, and I should call Sen. Kerry's office and suggest he appear on it! The message then ends...THERE IS NO WAY TO LEAVE A MESSAGE OR TALK TO A LIVE PERSON. Sinclair has created an extra step - people need to place one more long distance call (I don't live in Milwaukee) and then you can't leave a message anyway. This goes against everything the media should stand for - honest reporting and freedom of speech.

Sinclair
Broadcasting's

decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

And not listening
to their audience
seems like it should
be against some law
of the FCC.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.